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(54) Absorbable implant materials having controlled porosity

(57) Absorbable implant materials having controlled porosity are formed by a method comprising the steps of: providing a dispersion of a bioabsorbable polymer, such as collagen, in a first solvent, such as water; adding particles of a second material, e.g. frozen water droplets or ice particles to the dispersion; followed by freezing the dispersion to form a frozen dispersion having the particles embedded therein, and removing both the first solvent and the second material from the frozen dispersion by freeze-drying or solvent extraction to leave the porous implant material. The invention also encompasses the use of such implant materials for wound healing applications.

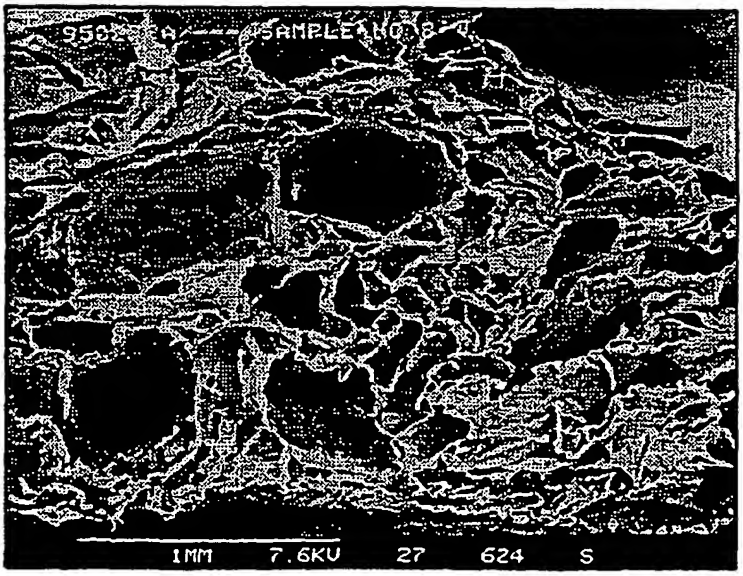

FIG. 2

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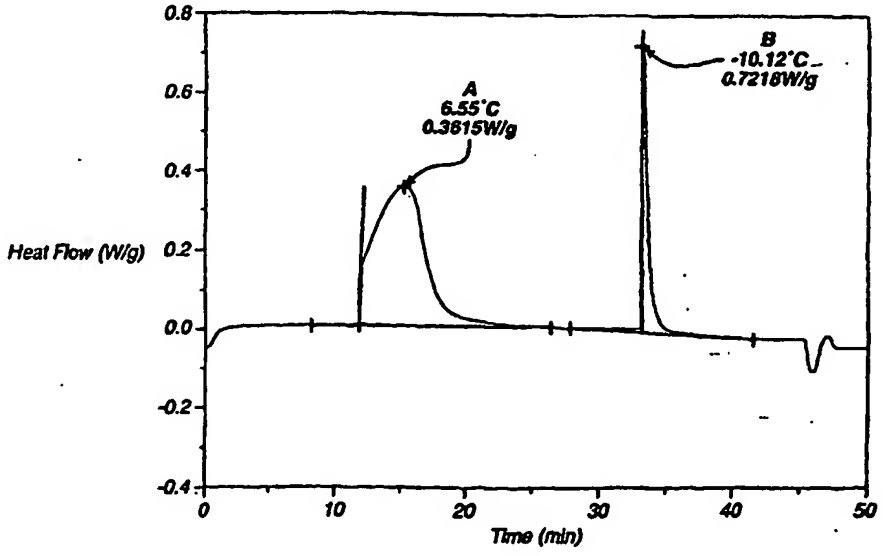
For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR MANUFACTURING BIOMEDICAL FOAMS



(57) Abstract: The present invention provides an improved lyophilization process for forming biocompatible foam structures. The process allows the foam structures to be tailored for specific end uses. The foams formed by this process are well suited to be used in medical applications such as tissue engineering. The foam structures may also contain pharmaceutically active substances.

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